What is impaction?

Impaction is the process, or tool, that California State University campuses use to limit admissions. Without a change to our current use of impaction, CSUN cannot adequately control how many students are admitted as the university is obligated to admit all eligible students.

Is CSUN currently impacted?

Yes. For fall 2015, CSUN remains impacted for first-time freshman admission and admission to three majors in the David Nazarian College of Business and Economics — financial planning, accounting and finance. This means CSUN currently admits all eligible local area applicants and has higher admission standards for out-of-area applicants. Additional enrollment management tools are proposed for fall 2016.

What is CSUN's enrollment management goal?

CSUN aims to reduce its undergraduate enrollment by 1 percent — approximately 300 students — each year for the next four years beginning fall 2016.

Graduate ADMISSIONS is not affected.

Why is CSUN planning further impaction?

Enrollment at CSUN has grown significantly in the past five years. In fall 2009, the university’s enrollment was 35,198. In fall 2014, CSUN had more than 40,000 graduate and undergraduate students enrolled, an all-time high for the campus. As part of the CSU system, CSUN is annually given a specific enrollment target. In recent years, state funding has not increased sufficiently to support both the demand of new applicants as well as the increasing course loads taken by students who are currently enrolled. Our funded enrollment target is less than our demand.
How will CSUN use the proposed impaction tools to control enrollment?

CSUN is committed to access and will use the tools as minimally as possible to reach the state and CSU enrollment target.

What is changing for freshman admissions?

For fall 2016, CSUN is changing the local admissions area for freshmen. CSUN is also adding — but not planning to implement — full-academic-program impaction except for four of its largest majors (psychology, kinesiology, music, and cinema and television arts), i.e., changing requirements for all majors that may be over-enrolled.

Which additional majors will have enhanced admissions criteria?

For 2016-17:
- Accounting
- Business administration (insurance and financial services option)
- Cinema and television arts
- Finance
- Financial planning
- Kinesiology
- Music
- Psychology

What about other majors?

For 2017-18 and following:
If the additional impaction tools adopted for fall 2016 are not successful to meet the enrollment management goal, CSUN may consider additional academic programs for impaction beginning fall 2017. To ensure access, CSUN will only institute impaction for programs where there are more students interested in a major than capacity. Most majors will likely remain open to all CSUN applicants.

When are the new changes taking place?

CSUN is planning to implement the changes as reasonably as possible over the course of the next two admissions cycles (for 2016-17 and 2017-18).

What do freshman applicants need for admission?

For local admissions area:
- Completion of the A-G college preparatory courses with grades of C or better
- Submission of SAT or ACT scores
- The combination of SAT and GPA must meet the CSU eligibility index

For the rest of California:
- All of the above and a higher index score.
- If student is applying for admission to a major with additional criteria, he or she must meet the additional criteria as well in order to be admissible.

How is the freshman local admissions area changing?

The new local area for CSUN will include:
- Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District
- Antelope Valley Union
- Beverly Hills Unified School District
- Burbank Unified School District
- Compton Unified School District
- Culver City Unified School District
- Glendale Unified School District
- Gorman Elementary School District
- Inglewood Unified School District
- La Canada Unified School District
- Las Virgenes Unified School District
- Lennox Elementary School District
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Lynwood Unified School District
- Pasadena Unified School District
- San Gabriel Unified School District
- San Marino Unified School District
- Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District
- William S. Hart Union High School District
- All charter and private high schools within the districts above

Does this impact out-of-state, graduate and international students?

No. These groups are not affected.

How will this change the CSUN student body?

CSUN will utilize impaction as minimally as possible to meet state- and CSU-mandated enrollment targets. The enrollment management goal is a 1 percent reduction in undergraduates each year for the next four years. This equates to less than 300 students each year.

What will happen to students who no longer qualify for admission to CSUN?

CSUN is actively working with neighboring CSU campuses to support access for all regional students.

What if my major is not offered at my local CSU campus?

For high school students in Ventura and southern Santa Barbara counties, if the desired major is not offered at the local CSU campus, the student will be considered a local student for CSUN.

For More Information

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